

# MHERC UAB SDH CORE DIGEST

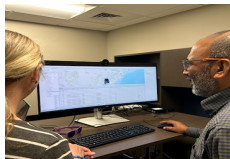
MHERC Social Determinants of Health Core

September 2024

[The Social Determinants of Health \(SDH\) Core](#) enables UAB investigators to measure the effect of social and environmental risks for disease etiology, progression, and outcomes, and test interventions that ameliorate their effect.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Drop-in Clinic and Geocoding Computer



The drop-in Clinic is held each **Friday at BDB 826**. [Learn more](#) about how we can help you! Need **HIPAA-compliant** geocoding? We got you! Every Tuesday, you can use the SDH Core geocoding computer at BDB 863. [Reserve now with this link](#).

### SDH Core Celebrates Its One Year Anniversary

In its inaugural year, the SDH Core has experienced tremendous growth:

- **Investigator base:** 75, representing 5 UAB schools and 38 departments/divisions
- **Services provided:** 111, including consultations, geocoding/linking, and statistical analysis
- **Grant collaborations:** 31
- **Manuscripts:** 13

### Pediatric Pandemic Network (PPN) Presentation

The Pediatric Pandemic Network (PPN) held its annual meeting in Birmingham from Aug. 27 to 29. Funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the network of 10 children's hospitals across the U.S. seeks to enhance the nation's preparedness to address public health emergencies that affect children. The UAB/Children's of Alabama (COA) site is led by Drs. Tamera Coyne-Beasley and Mitchell Cohen.

During this year's annual meeting, members gathered at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Birmingham to discuss advancements in pediatric emergency medicine, strategies for improving physical and mental health during emergencies, and approaches to addressing and preventing health inequities in disasters. **Elizabeth Baker, PhD**, Associate Professor of Sociology and SDH Core Co-Director, along with **Ariann Nassel, MA** from the School of Public Health and SDH Core Director of Geospatial Services, and **Gabriela Oates, PhD**, Associate Professor in the Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine and SDH Core Director, presented the project of the PPN Health Equity Domain, *Mapping Children's Health Vulnerabilities and Opportunities*. The project aims to incorporate geographic and social science perspectives for equitable emergency planning. The speakers presented a breakdown of COA's patient population by ZIP code, highlighting geographic regions with high patient volume vs high proportion of children relying on COA for services. With an emphasis on rural areas, the team also examined social vulnerability indicators to identify the needs of underserved groups. The tool developed by the group will be used for planning of services, emergency preparedness, and resource allocation. A StoryMap of the project is available here: [Mapping children's health vulnerabilities and opportunities. \(arcgis.com\)](#).

### Expert Panel on SDH

Gabriela Oates, PhD, Director of the SDH Core, presented at the **OneFlorida+ Clinical Research Network & University of Florida CTSI conference**. She participated in the expert panel on Social Determinants of Health and Public Health Partnerships.

## CONGRATULATIONS to SDH CORE USERS!

#### Publications:

Roland HB, McGuire CM, Baskin ML, Esposito MH, Baker E, **Brown EE**. Influence of structural racism on cancer health disparities: Tailoring measures relevant to multiple myeloma. *Cancer*. 2024 Aug 11. doi: 10.1002/cncr.35512. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39127894.

Ghazi L, Parcha V, Takeuchi T, Butler CR, Baker E, Oates GR, Juarez LD, Nassel AF, Rahman AF, Siew ED, Chen X, Gutierrez OM, **Neyra JA**. Association of Neighborhood Social Determinants of Health with Acute Kidney Injury during Hospitalization. *Clin J Am Soc Nephrol*. 2024 Sep 11. doi: 10.2215/CJN.0000000000000528. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 39259609.

#### Other News:

**B. Grey Vandenberg, MS**, an SDH Core Statistician was recently accepted to the UAB graduate program in Biostatistics.

**Joy Ledvina, MBA**, the SDH Core Program Manager was recently accepted to the UAB graduate program in Educational Studies in Diverse Populations.

To share your good news, complete [this form](#). For more information, email [jledvina@uab.edu](mailto:jledvina@uab.edu).